

Hotel Williams  
Murray Bay (West shore)  
Grand Island  
Alger County  
Michigan

HABS No. MI-258

HABS  
MICH,  
2- GRAIL,  
1-

PHOTOCOPY

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HOTEL WILLIAMS

HABS No. MI-258

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1-

Location: Murray Bay (west shore), Grand Island, Alger County, Michigan.

Present Owner: Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company, Ishpeming, Michigan.

Present Use: Vacant.

Significance: Hotel Williams stands on the former American Fur Company property, along with the ca. 1837 log structures and a 1860s house built by the fur company. The hotel was built in the early 20th century after the fur company sold the property. It is a good example of an upper-peninsula resort architecture of the early 20th century.

PART I. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The hotel is a rectangular structure and has a porch, gambrel roof, and dormers.
2. Condition of fabric: Fairly good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The building is a two-and-a-half story, three-by-six-bay structure. Faces east. (Dimensions were not taken at the time of the survey).
2. Walls: Clapboards and shingles.
3. Structural system, framing: Frame construction.
4. Porches: A roofed porch with plain railings, balusters and columns is on the first floor front elevation. Under it is a dirt-floored, full-height basement porch.
5. Chimney: A large chimney was on the northern part of the roof.
6. Openings:
  - a. Doorways and doors: Double doors at the main entrance (other doors were not recorded).
  - b. Windows: Double-hung sash windows.
7. Roof: Gambrel roof. Dormers are gabled.

C. Description of Interior:

(Not surveyed)

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The building is located at the top of a short slope above the western shore of Murray Bay. Below it near the shore, are several cabins. All face generally toward the east.

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